

COURSES FOR THE MINOR IN FILM AND DIGITAL MEDIA

WABASH COLLEGE • FALL 2021

ART 202 “Art in Film,” E. Morton, T/TH 2:40-3:55pm

This course will explore the dynamic relationship between film and art from the late 20th century to the present, examining how visual art and important art historical moments and personas are featured in film. By studying films about art, the course will address the impact of visual arts and the ways that films use particular effects of the moving multi-sensory image to capture characteristics of art history. **This course counts as an elective course for the Minor in Film and Digital Media.**

ART 225 “Topics in Studio: Experimental Filmmaking,” D. Mohl, T/TH 1:10-3:00pm

This course focuses on re-evaluating the tropes and mainstream conventions of traditional narrative filmmaking. This is the approach of the individual artist or filmmaker, utilizing the medium to convey personal ideas and vision. It incorporates elements of the Avant-guard, underground, abstract, ecstatic, transcendental, and visionary. It explores alternative modes of production and expression. This type of filmmaking is often stylistically adopted, especially in Hollywood credit sequences, but is rarely ever used for commercial purposes. Students enrolled in this course will learn basic camera operation, non-linear editing software, and audio recording/design. They will explore their ideas through three video project prompts, with parameters designed to develop specific skill sets and sensibilities related to experimental filmmaking. Depending on the semester, some of these prompts may include: remixing current/archival images-mashups, time and repetition experiments, the fixed image- 2D compositing/collage, and abstract narrative storytelling. No previous experience with camera operation or editing software is needed for this course. No Prerequisites. **This course counts as a production course for the Minor in Film and Digital Media.**

ART 312 “Postmodern Art & Culture,” E. Morton, W 1:10-3:55pm

Modernism, as an art form and a historical/cultural condition, took many distinct forms and set out various contradictory goals. It has been said not only that the project of modernity is unfinished, but that every modernism has its own postmodernism. What does it mean to say that we are no longer modern, that the new is now old? Together we will discuss these questions from a variety of different angles, equipped with a variety of approaches. The course will concentrate on the relationships between art, culture, politics, and critical, theoretical writing. We will attempt to make sense out of what is often contentious, playful, contradictory, or even willfully obscure in contemporary art and criticism. This course is important for anyone wishing to participate in the contemporary public debates about the meaning and value of art and culture. This course is typically offered in the second half of the fall semester in odd-

numbered years. **This course counts as an elective course for the Minor in Film and Digital Media.**

ASI 112-01 “East Asian Popular Culture,” C. Healey, M/W/F 2:10-3:00pm

This course considers the production, circulation, and consumption of East Asian popular culture as a global phenomenon. Topics include Japanese anime, Korean pop music, Chinese science fiction, Hong Kong martial arts cinema, etc. Special attention will be paid to new media forms and transnational networks of cultural exchange. All readings in English. **This course counts as an elective course for the Minor in Film and Digital Media.**

BLS 270/MUS 104/ENG 260 “Black Movies and Films,” T. Lake, T/TH 9:45-11:00am

We will survey the history of Black Movies and Films from Oscar Micheaux to Spike Lee to Jordan Peele. Additionally, some attention will also be given to Black TV shows. This course will introduce you to the period of Black protest films, Blaxploitation films, urban realism and speculative film. The political and social implication of visual representation, as well as, the financial aspects of the movie industry will be covered here. We will read films as texts with the goal of learning the meaning(s) of Black life in the modern world. **This course counts as an elective course for the Minor in Film and Digital Media.**

BLS 300/FRE 377 “African Cinema,” A. Pouille, “T/TH 1:10-2:25pm

This course will study the evolution of African cinema since 1950. Traditionally dominated by the celluloid film, known for its sobering representations of Africa, the African cinematic landscape has recently witnessed the rise of the video film, generally characterized by a more aggrandizing portrayal of local cultures and communities. While analyzing the generic differences between these two types of films, we will also examine their appeal among African and international audiences. Furthermore, we will consider and reflect on the nexus points between African orality especially African myths and legends, and several contemporary issues among which immigration, globalization, gender relations, identity formation and modernity. Our primary resources will be films produced by acclaimed directors hailing from Cameroon, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Morocco, Egypt, Mali, Nigeria, South Africa and the Democratic Republic of Congo. This course will be offered in English, however French students will submit all writing assignments in French. **This course counts as an elective course for the Minor in Film and Digital Media.**

SPA 313 “Hispanic Crime Fiction & Film Noir,” M. Greenhalgh, T/TH 1:10-2:25pm

This course introduces students to the origins, developments, elements, and ideological uses of Hispanic crime fiction and film noir. We will explore the main features of the crime

genre in a short collection of literature/film in the Hispanic world from the early 20th century to the present. By emphasizing aesthetics, representation, and leitmotifs, students will analyze how authors and filmmakers engage issues of identity, belonging, and memory in the genre. This interdisciplinary course aims to give students a better understanding of crime fiction and film noir as a cultural space to discuss and critique social and political issues. Prerequisites: SPA-301 and SPA-302. **This course counts as an elective course for the Minor in Film and Digital Media.**

RHE 370-02 "Rhetoric of the News Media," J. Abbott, M/W/F 10:00-10:50am

The news media have been the subject of much heated debate in the past several years. In this seminar-style course, we will explore the role, nature, truthfulness, and functions of the news media through a rhetorical lens. More specifically, we will approach news reports as rhetorical texts as we ask such question as: What qualifies as news; who decides; and how might charges of falsehood relate to these queries? How do traditional journalists and partisan outlets differently define, frame, and report news? And how do their stories influence our perceptions of the topics they address? Finally, what is or should be the role of the news media in a democratic society? In our discussion of these and similar questions, we will consider the historical development of the news media as well as the financial, media, and institutional factors that shape and constrain the news. Students will engage in close rhetorical analysis of news stories and will produce their own news reports. **This course counts as an elective course for the Minor in Film and Digital Media.**

THE 104 "Introduction to Film," J. Cherry, M/F 2:10-3:00pm; W 2:10-4:00pm

This course is intended to introduce students to film as an international art form and provide an historical survey of world cinema from its inception to the present. The course will focus on key films, filmmakers, and movements that have played a major role in pioneering and shaping film. Selected motion pictures will be screened, studied, and discussed, with special emphasis placed on learning how to "read" a film in terms of its narrative structure, genre, and visual style. Specific filmic techniques such as mise en scene, montage, and cinematography will also be considered. Genre study, auteurism, and ideology will be explored in relation to specific films and filmmakers, as well as the practice of adaptation (from theater to film, and most recently, film to theater). **This is a core course for the Minor in Film and Digital Media.**